

2006 COED SOFTBALL RULES

Be sure to discuss these rules with your team. Each player should be familiar with these rules before beginning play.

Please remember that this is a recreation program, and you're out here to have fun!

RECENT CHANGES IN LOCAL RULES

The catcher may be male or female.

Sliding is now legal by any player. You may not over-run second or third base without liability as we have done in the past. Sliding is a dangerous activity that may result in injury.

1. Time limits. The time limit rule means no new inning will start after the time limit has been reached. The time limit is 55 minutes in slow pitch. This is measured from the time of the third out that ends the inning.
2. Pitching mat will be used. If the ball lands on the plate or mat, it is a strike.
3. Foul language or other unsportsmanslike conduct is grounds for ejection without warning from the umpires.
4. Courtesy runners are allowed. One per inning, with the runner being the player who made the last out. Man for man, or woman for woman.
5. Home Run Rule: The Equalizer Rule is in effect after the first home run. Your team can hit one home run more than the total of the other team. For example, your team cannot hit their second home run until after your opponent has hit their first.
6. Both men and women can hit from the side of the plate of their choice. Men will hit a 12" Incrediball; women will hit an 11" restricted flight, ASA approved softball. Balls will be provided by the Parks and Recreation Department. Batters will start their 'at bat' with a one ball, one strike count. You are allowed one foul ball after reaching two strikes; after another foul ball, 'you're out.'
7. Defense: You may play with a maximum of ten players on the field. With ten on the field, at least five must be women. Of the five infield positions (P, 1B, 2B, 3B, SS) at least three must be women. The remaining women will play in the in field or outfield. The pitcher is part of the defensive team. *The catcher may be either male or female.*
8. You may not bat two men in a row. You may bat two women consecutively.
9. A commit line is drawn in foul territory 20 feet from home plate. If you cross the line, you cannot return to third. Runners attempting to score cannot touch home plate or run through the batter's box. To score, you must cross the line drawn in foul territory from the front corner of home plate.
10. Intimidation of women players by men players will not be tolerated.
11. Runners cannot run into or over fielders. If, in the umpire's opinion, you crash into a fielder, you will be ejected.
12. Six rule rule: If your team is ahead, you can only score six runs in one inning. If behind, you can catch up and score six more runs.
13. With two outs, if your defensive team walks a male batter, he is awarded second base automatically. The female batter next up can choose to bat, or be awarded first base.

If you have any questions about these rules, please contact Umpire-in-Chief, Jim Winchester, or Recreation Supervisor, Michael Reese.